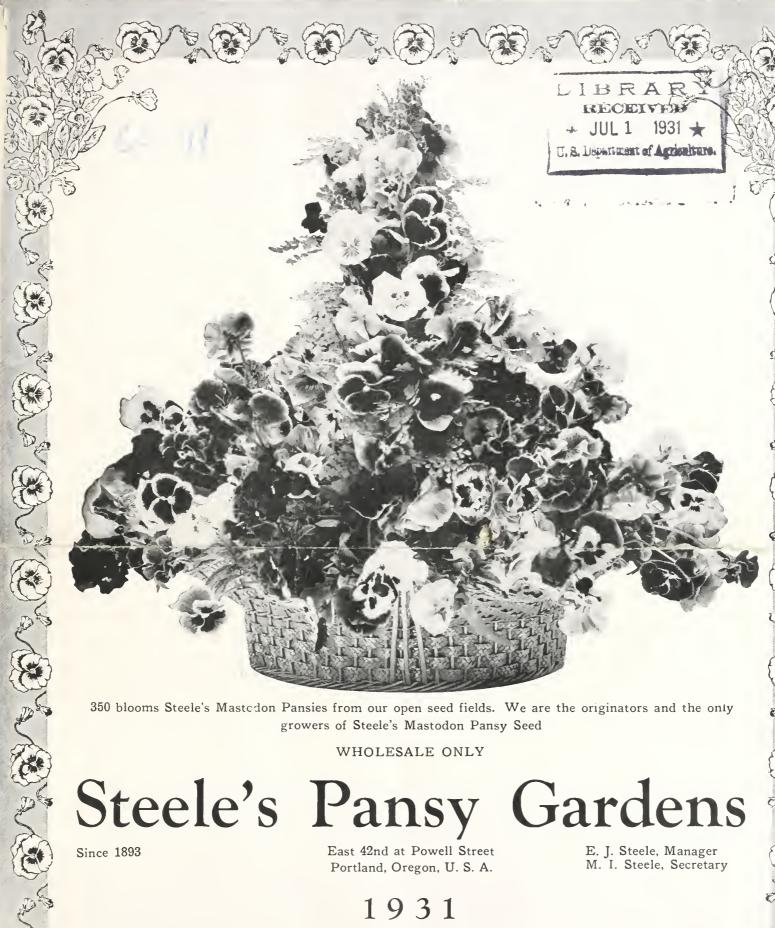
# **Historic, Archive Document**

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350 blooms Steele's Mastedon Pansies from our open seed fields. We are the originators and the only growers of Steele's Mastodon Pansy Seed

WHOLESALE ONLY

# Steele's Pansy Gardens

Since 1893

East 42nd at Powell Street Portland, Oregon, U.S. A.

E. J. Steele, Manager M. I. Steele, Secretary

# 1931

- 1. Free with each order of \$2.75 or more we will mail, postpaid, our beautiful four-color pansy poster painting of five grand flowers, by Miss Winifred Walker, official artist of the Royal Horticultural Society of London. (One picture only to each customer.)
- 2. Or, to anyone, we will mail prepaid same, unmounted—no advertising—at per copy, 25c. Stamps O. K. See Page 2.

Air Mail Orders from Atlantic States Reach Us in 40 Hours. Postage 5c



E. J. STEELE

# Do Dreams Come True?

Dear Neighbor:

Did that beautiful dream of yours come true? Did you try hard to make it come true? If you tried and failed, perhaps it is because you didn't try hard enough.

This is my dream that came true: Superb pansies, blue—sea blue; red—flaming red; gold—not white, but yellow gold; and other rare and beautiful shades—those baffling, iridescent shades nowhere to be seen as in pansies. All of wondrous size, color, form and substance.

Then an artist of world-wide reputation to transfer the glory of these flowers to canvas—a painting as lovely and beautiful as the flowers that nature painted in our garden.

Then an artisan—an engraver of international renown—to reproduce this marvelous picture so that you, and you, and you could see them, though thousands of miles away, even as well as we see them every day, growing in our gardens.

Last of all the printer, and what a wonderful job of the pressman it was. Do you wish to see this dream that came true? See front page.

### PREPARING BED FOR GERMINATING SEED.

- 1. Have your soil clean and pulverized to a depth of six or more inches.
- 2. On the level surface spread evenly a layer of pulverized manure, compost preferred, to a depth of at least one inch.
  - 3. Overlay manure with half inch of the best soil you have, thoroughly pulverized.
  - 4. Rake down and tamp surface true at mooth.
  - 5. Soak down the bed several inches.
  - 6. Sow in drills or broadcast—drills are better.
  - 7. Cover as lightly as possible with your best soil or sand. Sand is best.
  - 8. Use spray of water to moisten surface.
- 9. Allowing plenty of ventilation, keep your beds moist, quite moist, but not soaking wet, until plants come up.

We use cheapest grade of muslin to retain moisture. As soon as plants begin to come through freely we remove sheeting permanently, and sift tops of beds with thin layer of peat moss. To avoid damping off, water young seedlings very sparingly.

Never allow your beds to become dry. Any dryness after seeds sprout is absolutely fatal. These directions are for sowing in the open field, but will apply when using flats or cold frames. We use 85 to 100 square feet to sow an ounce of seed broadcast.

Alternate your pansy crop with some other crop.

THE UNUSUALLY HIGH GERMINATING QUALITIES OF MASTODON PANSY SEED is a revelation to all extensive growers who use our stock.

### LEST YOU FORGET.

We are originators of Mastodon Pansies, and any seed offered as "Mastodon" is not genuine unless grown in our gardens.





MASTODON PANSY



# STEELE'S PANSY GARDENS

PORTLAND, OREGON

Howdy, Folks!

Mrs. Steele speaking—the "M. I. Steele" you've noticed in our publicity.

My husband, E. J., says, "You butt in too much in this business". I says, Listen! You have two acres in the city gardens and thirty-four acres out at the ranch. You've spent thousands of dollars out there bringing in a huge flowing well for irrigation purposes; you've installed an electric automatic pumping plant and thousands of feet of water mains; you've just built a big up-to-the-minute comfort station and dining room for the women seed pickers; you're replacing tumble-down fences with iron; and now you are building a big two-story warehouse for curing and storing your seed, etc.

Besides, the ranch, so near the city, cost a fortune. Donner Wetter, but what a lot of money you are spending! And your

payroll! Boy! It was over \$10,000.00 last year!

The other day Bertha said to me: "Mrs. Steele, there is one mystery about this industry I could never solve: How can Mr. Steele pay all these bills?" And you don't grow a darned thing but pansies. What's the big idea? Answer me that!

"To answer that, Madam, is too long a story, but I'll mention one item of expense: It takes at least five long years to develop a new strain of pansies; even after that it is a constant battle to keep up the quality, and quality the public demands, and if we don't furnish it we are at the end of the trail."

And here's his alibi as to why I should not "butt in": "Lady, as the junior member of this partner-ship you did your bit in those early days of our career. You raised our family of five children, all living and going strong: from their good conduct and high achievements it seems that they must have inherited many of their fine characteristics from their dad."

"Your success in rearing our family was the result of your ambition to specialize in that vocation. Now the five children are all grown up and gone except 'Bud', and you have finished your job, only that the partnership check book is always at your service."

Just a minute, Mr. Smarty! During thirteen years that you held a principalship in the Portland Public Schools at a measly salary, it was I who carried on the pansy business, and when you wanted to borrow any money you got it from me, and I am quite sure that you never did pay back all I loaned you, either.

Besides, I still take your phone calls and telegrams, and carry the mails, drive visitors out to the ranch, do errands of every kind and description. By the way, what do I get for my next birthday? That's fine. Now, tell me, what is a specialist?

"He is one who devotes himself to, or has a special knowledge of some particular subject.

"Moses was a specialist. He told his people that he would free them from bondage, and after the forty years in the wilderness, he led them into the promised land—a land flowing with milk and honey.

"Thirty-eight years specializing in pansies only—have we reached perfection? Have we come to the promised land? Not yet, lady, but we hope we are on the way."

Well, folks, this husband of mine handles excuses like a ringmaster handles the elephants. Perhaps there may be a modicum of truth in all he says.

But don't you think I still have the right to "butt in" if I want to? Anyway, I won't quarrel with the check book. Oh, yes! I wonder what he is going to get me for next Christmas.

Do come and see us some time.

May I. Stule





Does Mrs. Rands know her job? I'll say she does.—E. J. S.

# STEELE'S PANSY GARDENS

PORTLAND, OREGON, U. S A.

HOWDY, FOLKS!

The Time is early summer.

The Place, Mr. Steele's ranch.

The Occasion. It's the pansy harvest parade.

We stand beside the new Pacific Super-highway that bisects the ranch, looking east. To the left is the "big field" stretching far across the little valley to the big hills beyond. Near to us is a wide ribbon of meadow for a screen, and then another field of pansies, and then another ribbon of meadow and another field of pansies.

What a blaze of glory and a panorama of nature's splendor that paradise never equalled and never saw! Hundreds of thousands of blooms of every color of the rainbow, and every year in every way they are getting better and better.

Who are we? We are the seed pickers. We are mostly housewives and neighbors. The most of us have been coming back for years past. We have a nice large community building, constructed for our convenience.

Twelve is a normal crew of pickers, but we have had as high as twenty on the payroll. And the harvest lasts from early summer whenever the bumble bees have come before us to pollinate the flowers, and until early fall. It's a strange truth, but without the bumble bees for pollination there would be no happy days or payrolls at Mr. Steele's ranch.

### THE HARVEST

Each picker takes into the field with her a No. 2 splint basket and a thin muslin sugar sack with a colored key tag patterned to identify the variety that is ready to pick, thus avoiding the danger of mixing the seed. At the close of the day it is my duty to see that the day's picking is put into sacks described above, a basket to a sack, properly tagged with date of picking. Then it is ready for curing.

What wonderful plants these seed bearers are! The broad leaf, dark green foliage, the huge blooms, ripe seed, green seed, and blossoms all summer long. The fields in charge of "Junior" Steele, every plant is as spick and span as a drum major; not a weed, not a "weak sister" plant. Not a pest, not a disease of any kind, some of them with as many as 100 blooms—can you imagine it? Globe trotters say in all the world no pansies like these!

Right here I must mention the trial gardens under the supervision of Donald ("Bud") Steele. Here are to be found hundreds of plants, some of them three feet in diameter—a solid mass of blooms covering the entire plant with a blaze of color. Every plant is a selected specimen and you may well say the seed selected in these gardens is priceless. It is used for growing the planting stock for the seed fields of the following year. In a special secluded spot was a bed of Jumbo plants last summer and every plant that went into this bed bore a flower measuring four or more inches in diameter! And all field grown at that.

It is part of my special duties to assist Bud in picking his selections in the trial gardens. It is also another duty of mine to select the seed for separate colors, which must be taken from specimen plants and requires going over each garden several times to get as little as an ounce, as all plants in Steele's Pansy Gardens are grown from seed stock from plants that show high merit in size, color, form, and substance and true to type.

The marvelous germinating quality of Mastodon pansies is partly because of perfect climatic conditions in Oregon; warm, sunny weather with no showers to damage the ripening seed on the plants; no intense heat to cause premature development before the seed has attained perfection in its germinating powers.

I hope that E. J. Steele, Jr., will tell you later, how, during a period of over three weeks he cures this seed so perfectly that 75% shells itself.

I must tell you how courteous and well behaved our pickers are. None of us thinks she could manage the business of the Gardens any better than the Chief does. None of us complain that "there are too darned many straw bosses around here!" None of us ever get the idea we have nothing more to learn in this world. None of us ever think that we are picking green seed or that we are failing to find all the ripe seed.

None of us talk loudly or too much. None of us ever mention our own family troubles. Nobody brings the latest news about the neighbors affairs. Even the young unmarried ladies do not tell us the names of their boy friends and because of our genteel manners you can readily see that we pick a lot of seed in an eight-hour day.

I am sure that I can speak for every woman on our harvesting staff when I say that we all enjoy our work and count the days until the new crop comes in. Always before the harvest ends we have a grand picnic, including the entire ranch and office staff. And we wish that all of you who love the pansy could also be with us. Come and see us "some time".

Mrs. a.a. Rands



Air Mail orders from East of Mississippi River save 2 days; West of same 1 day. Postage 5c

### STEELE'S PANSY GARDENS

# East 42nd at Powell Street

# Portland, Oregon, U. S. A.

Send the following ORDER	R, by	Amt.	Enclosed
Name	St	reet	
R. F. D	Postoffice		State

### Pansy PRICE oz. Jumbo Mixed, 1930 novelty oz. "400" Mixed ..... oz. Miracle Mixed ..... Greenhouse Special Mixed .... oz. Masterpiece Mixed ..... oz. Mlle. Irene, tango red..... Golden Gate, yel, dk. center ........... OZ. Striata, striped ..... OZ. Improved Vulcano, burg. red ..... oz. Improved Isabelle, new..... Panama-Pacific, yellow ..... Parisian Yellow, pure Bronze White, dark center.... Grand Duke Michel, white.... oz. Madame Perrett, rose shades oz. Black oz. Madame Steele, Elk's purple oz. Prince Henry, dark blue..... oz. Beaconsfield ..... oz. Adonis, light blue..... oz. Sea Blue, 1930..... oz. Ramona, mauve Pink...... Extra Unprinted Pansy Poster

### Winter Flowering Sweet Peas

	S S		
		Pri	CE
oz.	Fortyniner, new, bright		
	orange		
oz.	Sunray, creamy cerise		
oz.	Morse's Giant Rose		
0Z.	Spring Song Pink (New)		•••••
oz.	Lavender Harmony		
oz.	Vulcan, bright scarlet		
oz.	Glitters, bright rose cerise		
oz.	White Harmony		
	Diener's Petunias		
pkt.	Pink		
pkt.	Red		
	Red, with black center		
pkt.	Mauve, royal purple		
pkt.	Giant Pink Glory		
pkt.	Theodosia, deep rose pink		
pkt.	Double Ruffled Monsters		
	Mixed		
	. 74		
	1		
	TOTAL		

How to get a four color Pansy Poster free. See Catalog.

TOTAL

Can't you send us the name of another Commercial grower?

# Complete Copy Classified Pansy Ads

"Review" March 24, 1927, Edition

Eleven wholesale growers use "Steele's" Stock and mention it. Two of the four not mentioning "Steele" buy our seed. Will they all be using it soon? We wonder!

The Florists' Review

MARCH 24, 1927

PANSIES

PANSIES

PANSY PLANTS.

From our giant-flowering mixture of shew varieties.

Unsurpassable in quality, also in separate colors of red, white, yellow, blue, brenze and bright blue, plants well rooted, strong and atocky, \$3.50 per \$4.00 per \$100.00 or more.

Large, bnuby plants, \$2.50 per \$100.00 or more.

Large, bnuby plants, \$2.50 per \$100.00 per \$100.

Bristol, Pa.

Pansles. The Tushtin Valley Seed Farm will be in a position to turnish to the trade some 83 for the part of the

To either variety.

Toalatin Valley Seed Farm, Redville, Ore.

Toalatin Valley Seed Farm, Redville, Ore.

Panelas, Steole'a Miracla Mixed, the finest Steele atrain, in had and bloom; coldframsgrown, short, stocky, bunhy, well-sheped, frost-proof and freeze-proof, fresh, clean plants, proving the state of the state o

Leonard Consins, Concord Junction, Mass.
Pansy plants, strong three months old, cold-frame-grown seedling of Steele's celebrated Greenhouse Special; very fine out of doors; plants throw massmooth blooms on long stems in a wonderful variety of rich colors; 75c per 100, 85.60 per 1000, Packing free, Casi, please.

Eigin Plant Co., Elgin, III.

200,000 large, stocky, transplanted, colfframegrown Steele's Pansies, ready now and later,

71.50 per 100 postpaid, \$10.00 per 1000; express
collect. These plants are hadding, with some
blooms. No charge for packing, Estafaction
guaranteed.

Lockwood Greenhousa, Lockwood, Mo.

Pansies, Steele's Greenhouse, Lockwood, Mo.
Pansies, Steele's Greenhouse Special, transplented, ontdoor, grown, soma in had and bloom, St. D., Willisms, Van Buren, Ark.
Pansy plants, from Steele's special strong, otocher reset in frames, grown cool; atrong, stocky plants, 32.50 per 100 ardens, Urbana, O.
The East Lawn Gardens, Urbana, O.

Steele's Greenhouse Special Pansy seedling September sown entside, \$4.00 per 1000, Sunnyside Florists, Burlington, Ia. seedlings,

Pansies, Steele's Mastodon, cold frame seedlings, 75c per 100, \$3.50 per 1000. The Webster Greenhouses, Centralla,

Pansy Steele's Mactodon, July sown and trans-planted, fina plants, \$1.50 per 100, \$12.00 per 1000. Anthony Delserque, Yongwood, Pa. Steele's Pensies, strong, healthy transplanted, \$10.00 per 1000 Recker Gardess. Fort Dedge, Is. Steele's Pansy plants, once transplanted, \$8.00 per 1000. F. C. Smith, Ashland, Wis.

PELARGONIUMS

·, O.

### STEELE'S PANSY GARDENS

# Winter Flowering Sweet Peas

EARLY FORTYNINER--1930 novelty. A deep yet bright true orange shade, making a glorious bunch. Price: oz. 85c; 4 ozs. \$2.75; 8 ozs. \$5.25. lb. \$10.00.

SUNRAY—A glowing, soft cerise on cream ground. New. Price: oz. 50c; 4 ozs. \$1.75; 8 ozs. \$3.50; lb. \$6.50.

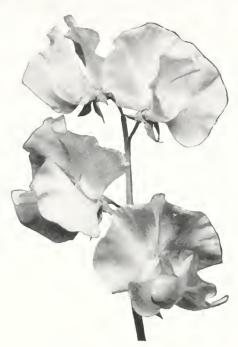
MORSE'S GIANT ROSE—Early Giant Rose is a vigorous grower with longer stems than other Rose Pink varieties. It is a free bloomer and the flowers are very large and beautifully frilled. The shade is a rich clear rose pink. Price: oz. 50c; 4 ozs. \$1.75; 8 ozs. \$3.50; lb. \$6.50.

SPRING SONG—A beautiful, bright salmon rose pink. Price: oz. 50c; 4 ozs. \$1.75; 8 ozs. \$3.50; lb. \$6.50.

LAVENDER HARMONY—A strong growing, free flowering shade of lavender. Price: oz. 50c; 4 ozs. \$1.75; 8 ozs. \$3.50; lb. \$6.50.

VULCAN—For a real bit of bright color Vulcan fills the bill. Large flowers of bright scarlet which do not burn even in the strongest sunshine. Price: 1 oz. 50c; 4 ozs. \$1.75; 8 ozs. \$3.50; lb. \$6.50.

GLITTERS—Early Glitters has always been popular with growers and florists alike. It is a fine bright rose cerise under glass. Large flowers and a good grower. Price: oz. 50c; 4 ozs. \$1.75; 8 ozs. \$3.50; lb. \$6.



MORSE'S GIANT ROSE 1-3 Natural Size

WHITE HARMONY—A strong growing, black seeded pure white. Being black seeded it germinates easily. It is a pure solid white. The stems are long, flowers large and of exquisite form. Price: 1 oz. 65c; 4 ozs. \$2; 8 ozs. \$4; lb. \$8.50.



No. 8. Diener's Ruffled Monsters in 3-inch pots, 12 weeks after sowing

### DIENER'S PETUNIAS

Over eight thousand florists raised our Petunias last year and we have heard nothing but praise of their high quality. All of our seed bearers are first raised in 3-inch pots and must conform to the type you see in the accompanying picture of this catalog. This makes the producing of the seeds more expensive, but results in the high quality of our seeds. Every plant is dwarf and stocky, no pinching or staking necessary and they sell at sight. Over 500 seeds per trade packet.

RUFFLED MONSTER TYPE (Single)	30. THEODOSIA—Deep rose pink. Medium size with
Average about 90% true Tr. No. Pkt.	edges heavily frilled. Very good for pot plants and bedding
1. PINK—Strongly veined center. Flowers 6 to 8 inches in diameter. One of the largest in existence\$0.50 2. RED—Flowers 5 to 7 inches in diameter	DOUBLE PETUNIA TYPES No. Tr. Pkt.
20. MAUVE—Center heavily veined with royal purple. One of the most exquisite and most popular varieties. Flowers average 5 inches across. Very fragrant	Same colors and sizes as single Ruffled Mon- sters, but double. Bring enormous flowers. Ex- cellent for 4 or 5-inch pots or bedding. Average amount of double varieties in this mixture is 50%. \$1.00
which attracts the attention of customers immediately. Very large\$0.50	One packet each of 7 varieties—Price \$3.50

# Steele's Pansy Gardens

Portland, Oregon, U. S. A.

Wholesale Prices Net

1931 Crop

Each and every strain listed on this page is a genuine "Steele's Mastodon"

Jumbo Mixed—1930 Novelty. These gigantic flowers, in our open field, with no special care whatever, were exhibited at the Northwest Flower Show in Seattle, measuring up to 4½ inches in diameter! In all our 38 years as pansy specialists we have never seen a strain of pansies anywhere near their equal in average size; also has a fine wide range of bright colors Price: 1/32 oz. \$0.85; 1/16 oz. \$1.25; ½ oz. \$2.25; ½ oz. \$4.25; ½ oz. \$8.25; oz. \$16; 2 ozs. \$31.00.

**Sea Blue**—New. The most beautiful shade of blue we have ever seen. Very large. Price: 1/16 oz. \$0.75; ½ oz. \$1.25; ¼ oz. \$2.75; ½ oz. \$5.25; oz. \$10.00; 2 ozs. \$18.00.

"400" Mixed—A super Swiss strain. Grand in size, form, color, substance. Huge jewels of velvet and red and gold, with variations of those colors, including shades entirely new. Price: 1/16 oz. \$0.75; ½ oz. \$1.25; ½ oz. \$2.75; ½ oz. \$5.25; oz. \$10.00; 2 ozs. \$18.00; 4 ozs. \$34.00.

Miracle Mixed—Finest types of our strains, latest novelties. Price: 1/16 oz. \$0.75; ½ oz. \$1.25; ½ oz. \$2.25; ½ oz. \$4.25; oz. \$8.00; 2 ozs. \$15.00; 4 ozs. \$26.00.

Masterpiece Mixed—Long stems. Best for cut flowers. Price: 1/16 oz. \$0.85; ½ oz. \$1.50; ½ oz. \$2.75; ½ oz. \$5.25; 1 oz. \$10.00; 3 ozs. \$27.00; 4 ozs. \$34.00.

Greenhouse Special Mixed—Fine market strain. Price: 1/16 oz. \$0.65; ½ oz. \$1.00; ¼ oz. \$1.75; ½ oz. \$3.25; 1 oz. \$6.00; 2 ozs. \$11.00; 3 ozs. \$15.00; 4 ozs. \$19.00.

Golden Gate—A monster Golden Yellow.

Striata—Striped sunburst.

Mlle. Irene—A henna red type, new to pansies

Vulcano—Burgundy red.

Isabelle—A ruffled bronze and yellow.

The price of each of the five varieties named above is: 1/16 oz. \$0.85; ½ oz. \$1.25; ½ oz. \$2.50; ½ oz. \$4.75; oz. \$9.00.

Panama Pacific—A large yellow.

Parisian Yellow—A pure yellow.

Bronze—Very large. Many shades.

White (dark center)—Very large.

Black—Nearly all jet black.

Grand Duke Michel—The largest all-white pansy.

Madame Steele — Elk's purple; immense blooms; a perfect self.

Madame Perrett — Bordered white; colors wine, pink and red.

Prince Henry—A splendid dark blue.

Improved Beaconsfield—New. A fine bluish purple with a distinct lavender tinge.

Adonis—Light blue and lavender shades.

The price of each of the eleven varieties named above is: 1/16 oz. 0.65; 1/8 oz. 1.00; 1/4 oz. 1.75; 1/2 oz. 1.75; 1/2 oz. 1.75; 1/2 oz. 1.75; 1/2 oz. 1/20 oz.

Owing to variations in soil, climate, care and cultivation, we are not responsible for the crop.

We do not offer seed packets of a size smaller than those listed above

WHOLESALE ONLY